## **Natural Resources Conservation Service**

# **Application Ranking Summary**

# Area 3 - Lower Basin - Range

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Area 3 - Lower Basin - Range		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:	-	

## **National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes O or No O
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes O or No O
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes O or No O
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes O or No O
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes O or No O
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes O or No O
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes O or No O

## **State Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	
2. Wildlife – Will the practices installed facilitate improvement in the habitat for sensitive, threatened, or endangered species?	Yes O or No O
3. Weeds - Will the practices installed control all invasive species present on the offered acres?	Yes O or No O
4. Water Quality – Will practices be installed to improve the identified TMDL impairment adjacent to and/or located less than 1320 feet from a TMDL identified water body?	
5. Grazing Lands - Will the practices installed result in the implementation of a planned grazing system?	Yes O or No O
6. Pollinator Habitat – Will this application include development of food, cover, and/or nest sites for native pollinators in accordance with Utah Technical Guide Notice UT238?	Yes O or No O

#### **Local Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the local priority category.	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other Local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	
Rangeland Health	
2. Is the change in the Rangeland Health Score, as calculated using the designated Rangeland Health scoresheet for EQIP between 1 to 3?	Yes O or No O
3. Is the change in the Rangeland Health Score, as calculated using the designated Rangeland Health scoresheet for EQIP, between 4 to 6?	Yes O or No O
4. Is the change in the Rangeland Health Score, as calculated using the designated Rangeland Health scoresheet for EQIP, between 7 to 9?	Yes O or No O

5. Is the change in the Rangeland Health Score, as calculated using the designated Rangeland Health scoresheet for EQIP, between 10 to 12?	Yes O or No O
6. Is the change in the Rangeland Health Score, as calculated using the designated Rangeland Health scoresheet for EQIP, greater than 12?	
Wildlife Habitat Benefits (For WHEG questions note it has to be an increase not a WHEG Score.)	
7. Using the appropriate WHEG(s), the qualitative increase in habitat improvement will be >0.7.	
8. Using the appropriate WHEG(s), the qualitative increase in habitat improvement will be >0.6, but <0.7.	
9. Using the appropriate WHEG(s), the qualitative increase in habitat improvement will be >0.5, but <0.6.	Yes O or No O
10. Using the appropriate WHEG(s), the qualitative increase in habitat improvement will be >0.4, but <0.5.	Yes O or No O
11. Using the appropriate WHEG(s), the qualitative increase in habitat improvement will be >0.3, but <0.4.	Yes O or No O
12. Using the appropriate WHEG(s), the qualitative increase in habitat improvement will be >0.2, but <0.3.	Yes O or No O
13. Do the project practices enhance habitats for identified threatened or endangered species found in the project area?	
Ecological Site/Similarity Index	
15. Will the practices when implemented provide for an increase of at least 5% above the current similarity index?	Yes O or No O
16. Will the practices when implemented provide for an increase of at least 10% above the current similarity index?	Yes O or No O
17. Will the practices when implemented provide for an increase of at least 15% above the current similarity index?	Yes O or No O
Other Resource Benefits	
18. Will a fire suppresion practice be included in the contract (fire resistant borders)?	Yes O or No O
19. Do the project practices provide control on the contracted acres for noxious or invasive species identified by the county weed control board?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation	
20. Does the application contain practices to address an alternative energy source (solar, wind, hydro)?	Yes O or No O
Other Concerns	
21. Has the applicant had a Farm Bill Contract terminated for non-compliance?	Yes O or No O
22. Does the applicant have an active Farm Bill contract that is currently not on schedule or in non-compliance?	Yes O or No O

#### Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
Ranking Score	
Efficiency:	
Local Issues:	
State Issues:	
National Issues:	
Final Ranking Score:	

Notes:

	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: